1. National Highways
2. State Highways
3. Major District Roads
4. Other District Roads
5. Village Roads.

(c) Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. All roads other than National Highways are essentially the responsibility of the State Govt. concerned. As regards National Highways in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, no road has been categorised as VIP road.

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

Wayside Amenities along the National Highways in Tamil Nadu

3038. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any scheme for setting up of Wayside Amenities along the National highways, especially in Tamil Nadu;

(b) how many places have been chosen in Tamil Nadu during the year and details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Madurai district is not chosen in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) whether Govt. will consider it in next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has an on-going scheme, both in the Government and Private Sector, for setting up passenger-oriented wayside amenities along the National Highways in the country, including Tamil Nadu.

(b) to (d) Under the Government Scheme, there is one place on National Highway No. 7 at Sattur in Tamil Nadu. Under the Private Sector Scheme, such facilities are to be provided at one point each on the following stretches of National Highways in Tamil Nadu.

(i) Madras-Dindigul, NH-45
(ii) Bangalore-Madurai, NH-7
(iii) Madurai-Kanyakumari, NH-7
(iv) Krishnagiri-Ranipet, NH-46
(v) Salem-Coimbatore-Cochin, NH-47

Construction of Cargo Berths at Tuticorin

3039. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for construction of Cargo Berths at Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu) during the year is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and whether Government propose to consider the project in the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The proposal for construction of cargo berth at Tuticorin, at an estimated cost of Rs. 28.76 crores, is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Demands of the Truck Operators Union

3040. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps so far have been taken to meet the demand of the Truck Operators Union (AIMTC);

(b) details of the demands and action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Ministry has any contingency plans to avoid any further strike by the AIMTC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A statement is annexed (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

List of Demands which have been accepted Fully or Partially by Government and Action Taken

1. *Path Kar & Octroi*

With regard to abolition of octroi a Committee of six Chief Ministers of West Bengal,

Orissa, Bihar, Haryana, Maharashtra and Gujarat with Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal as Chairman and Shri Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Advisor to Government of India as Associate Member has been constituted to examine the issue and make recommendations.

As regards Path Kar, on the request of Minister of Surface Transport, the Governors of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Chief Ministers of Bihar, Orissa, Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat have agreed to abolish 'Path Kar' with immediate effect.

2. *Multiple Enforcement Agencies*

It was agreed that necessary amendments would be made in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to withdraw the powers of Police in the following matters :—

(i) Overloading;

(ii) Checking of permits;

(iii) Checking of permit conditions;

(iv) Checking of insurance certificates;

(v) Licences of Conductors;

(vi) Certificate of fitness (except when the vehicle is involved in accident).

3. *Overloading of Vehicles*

It was pointed out to the representatives of the AIMTC that there already exist strict penalties for overloading in Motor Vehicles Act.

Instructions to the State Governments to curb overloading have been reiterated.

4. *Driving Licence*

It was agreed that suitable amendments to the section 7 of Motor Vehicles Act would be made whereby eligibility of obtaining a learner's licence would be possession of a light or medium motor vehicle driving licence for a period of one year.

5. *Highway Robbery*

The matter regarding increasing incidence of highway robberies was discussed with the IGs of Police of the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar on 25-11-1992. Certain suggestions were made to the State Governments as also the truck operators in this regard. The matter is being further pursued and the Chief Ministers of the States have been addressed on 3rd August 1993 to take effective measures to curb the menace of highway robberies.

6. *Raising age limit of Goods Vehicles under National Permit*

A Technical Committee has been set up to examine the matter as to whether the age limit of 9 Years of vehicles operating under national permit could be raised. This Committee had recommended that there is no justification in raising this age limit. However, the All India Motor Transport Congress have not agreed with the recommendation of the Committee and on their persistent demand, Government have agreed to reconsider the matter.

7. *Toll on Bridges*

A list of the bridges constructed by the Central Government where tolls were being charged and the present stage of collection has been given to the AIMTC.

8. *Demands Relating to Insurance and Carriers Act*

This matter has been discussed at length by the Government with the representatives of AIMTC and GIC in a meeting on 28th July 1993. Since the issues involved a number of legal angles, an Expert Group consisting of representatives of AIMTC and GIC has been constituted to examine the whole issue in detail. GIC has been instructed to initiate deliberations of this Group immediately.

9. *Giving Diesel Outlets to Association and Corporatives of Truck Operators*

Government have agreed to take up the matter with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for suitable consideration.

Development of Road with the Assistance from Asian Development Bank

3041. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) under the Asian Development Bank—First Road Project Loan how many projects have been financed in Tamil Nadu so far;

(b) what is the latest stage of these projects;

(c) whether Madurai (Tamil Nadu) has been included in the projects if not, whether Government propose to give priority to Madurai in next year; and